[Translation]

PCOs in Rural Areas

2097. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to provide a number of PCOs and upgrade the capacity of many lines into automatic trunk exchanges in rural areas of Bihar during the current year is under consideration of the Government;

(b) the details threof, district-wise; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). There is a proposal to provide 6500 village Public Telephones (VPTs) PCOs in rural areas of Bihar during 1996-97. District-wise details of proposed PCOs are given in the enclosed Statement.

There is no proposal to upgrade the capacity of many lines into automatic Exchanges in rural areas of Bihar during 1996-97. Trunk Automatic Exchanges are provided at Secondary Switching Areas (SSAs)/District Headquarters.

STATEMENT

District-wise Details of proposed PCOs

Name of District	Target fixed by Telecommunications Department to provide VPTs during 1996-97
Ara	353
Bhagalpur	283
Chhapra	357
Darbhanga	398
Dumka	282
Dhanbad	500
Gaya	363
Hazaribagh	476
Jamshedpur	476
Katihar	438
Muzaffarpur	438
Munger	370
Motihari	275
Patna	351
Ranchi	392
Sasaram	398
Sahrasa	370
Total	6500

TV Relay/AIR Centre in Karnataka

2098. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of TV Relay Centres and AIR stations in Karnataka, location-wise;

(b) the number of projects pending so far, location-wise;

(c) the present status and financial provisions made for completion of these projects;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to set up new TV and AIR stations in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof and time by which these are likely to be completed;

(f) whether the TV transmitter, Gulbarga has not been installed since 1972;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the time by which it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Statement-I indicating number of TV centres and All India Radio Stations is enclosed.

(b) and (c). Statement-II is enclosed.

(d) and (e). Whereas All India Radio does not have at present any scheme for setting up a new radio station, Doordarshan proposes to set up 4 High Power Transmitters at Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur and Hassan. Although locations of these projects have been approved, the schemes are yet to be sanctioned. The implementation of these projects would require a lead time of 3 to 4 years after sanction of schemes which is dependent upon availability of resources vis-a-vis *inter-se* priorities.

(f) to (h). High Power Transmitter (1 KW) Gulbarga has been commissioned since 3.9.1977. Replacement of the existing 1 KW HPT by a 10 KW transmitter is presently under implementation and is expected to be completed during 1997.

STATEMENT-I

DOORDARSHAN	ALL INDIA RADIO
1	2
HPT	
BANGALORE	BHADRAWATI
DHARWAD	DHARWAD
GULBARGA	GULBARGA
SHIMOGA	MANGALORE/UDIPI
LPT	MYSORE
ARSIKERE	BANGALORE
ATHANI	HASSAN